

THE EVENING STAR,

With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON,

MONDAY, January 26, 1914

THEODORE W. NOYES, Editor

The Evening Star Newspaper Company.

Business Office: 1115 St. and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
New York Office: Tribune Building.
Chicago Office: First National Bank Building.
European Office: 3 Regent St., London, England.

The Evening Star, with the Sunday morning edition, is delivered by carriers within the city at 45 cents per month, daily only, 25 cents per month, Sunday only, 20 cents per month. Order may be sent by mail, or telephone Main 2640. Collection is made by carrier at the end of each month.

Published in advance by mail, postage prepaid. Daily, Sunday excepted, one month, 40 cents. Six months, \$2.25. One year, \$4.00. Single copies, 10 cents.

Entered as second-class mail matter at the post office at Washington, D. C.

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Trust Legislation.

These things are admitted: (1) Legislation on the trust question will be enacted at this session of Congress; (2) the problem is difficult; (3) both parties should assist in the solution; leading lawyers and leading business men have views which Congress should hear and consider. Now is the time to arrange for the presentation of views from sources which by reason of their eminence will command the widest attention and the highest respect.

Why would it not be a good thing—why not the best thing—for the congressional committee charged with investigating the subject to invite the men who have presided over the Department of Justice since the Sherman law was enacted and secure their opinions not only as to the law, but the propositions now in evidence for strengthening it?

Fortunately all are living. Miller, Olney, Harmon, Griggs, Knox, Moody, Bonaparte and Wickham have been reached, and probably all would respond. They did not have equal success in executing the Sherman law, but all gave it attention, and all must be following the present discussion with much interest. The views of all, given by the formal invitation of congressional inquirers, would weigh both with Congress and the general public.

It is a familiar story that for some years the Sherman law disappointed its authors and the country. Plans expected were not produced. Complaints were made, and many suggestions offered. Many men went so far as to suggest that the law be repealed and a new start made.

At last it was discovered that the statute did have teeth, and that it was dangerous for trusts to "monkey with the buzz saw." Since then it has been frequently appealed to by the government, and often with great success. It is so live a wire today the President asks not that it be reformed, but more heavily charged. And there is much republican agreement with this opinion.

In the twenty-four years since the law was written the trust question has grown in size and difficulty, and now presents aspects unknown or unimagined of by those who originally attacked the trust evil. But the object is the same now as then, and the protests against oppressive monopoly rest upon the same basis. As a foundation the Sherman law is sound; and we may add to the structure whatever may be necessary to accomplish the large ends sought.

Presumably the President wants legislation, not for campaign purposes next fall, but to meet requirements which all parties agree are pressing. All light, therefore, both from the legal and the business angle, that can be secured should be thrown on the subject.

Motor Car Thefts.

It is getting to be almost as unsafe to leave motor cars standing at the curb in this city as it once was to leave bicycles. Motor thieves have been unusually active lately, taking a number of cars, some of which have been recovered, but others are still missing. Some of this work is doubtless that of professionals. The other day a man was arrested at Elizabeth, N. J., for having bought \$50,000 worth of stolen motors. He seemed to have been a middleman or "fence" for this traffic, and investigation into his case may throw light upon numerous auto disappearances, not only in that neighborhood, but elsewhere. It is not a difficult thing to take an auto from one city to another, change the license number and quickly lose its identity. A man who is accustomed to the operation of various kinds of cars can easily make off with a car without attracting attention. Inasmuch as the majority of motors are operated by the owners and not by hired chauffeurs, they are exposed to this risk unless some means can be found for locking the starting devices. Such appliances are available, and it behooves all motorists to adopt them, rather than trust to the police protection for the safeguarding of their property. No police force, however large, could possibly guarantee safety for the hundreds of motors that every night are left in the streets unprotected.

A long time has elapsed since Uncle Joe Cannon declared that he would turn democrat. In the meantime Mr. Wilson has not expressed himself in a spirit either of hope or apprehension.

Militant suffragists in England have demonstrated that nothing is to be gained by throwing a nation's statesmanship into nervous agitation.

If the King of Spain visits Argentina he should not fail to take a little more time and have a look at the rest of the hemisphere.

In the meantime Huerta keeps an eye on the time table of that little railroad running to Vera Cruz.

To Test the Langley Machine.

Lincoln Beachey's proposal to build a duplicate of the Langley aerodrome has been approved by the Smithsonian Institution, and the interesting experiment will probably proceed in season. It has been repeatedly suggested for some years that the Langley machine would in proper circumstances maintain stable flight. Eminent aviators have insisted that Langley had not only worked out the right theory of heavier-than-air flight, but that his machine was in all essentials practical, needing only a correct method of starting to maintain itself in the air. Beyond this assertion there has never been any proof, and although it is not at this time practically important to demonstrate it nevertheless the experiment will be interesting, and as the original machine will not be used there will be no risk of its destruction. Perhaps the risk of security involved in this test of the original device will be better worth

while than the risks run in the "circus stunts" which are being performed continually, especially such exhibitions of recklessness as that of the Belgian aviator Ollivier, who yesterday looped the loop sixty-seven times and turned seven somersaults backward before descending, completing his performance in safety.

Samuel P. Langley has been formally declared by scientists to have been the actual pioneer in the evolution of the heavier-than-air flying machine. His fame is secure as to the history of this wonderful science, and it needs no physical demonstration to establish it. The only effect of an actual flying of the original aerodrome would be to convince the lay mind of the reality of Langley's achievement. To many people the unsuccessful flight of the "Beezard," as it was popularly called, was a failure, whereas, in fact, the margin between success and immediate failure on that occasion was only a matter of a few feet. It is believed that if the launching device which Langley used had been just a little longer the machine would have gained a sufficient impetus to rise. In any case, there was an error in attempting to launch the machine from an unstable platform, causing variations of the plane as the machine progressed to the edge. Of course, in the proposed experiment everything will depend upon the exactness with which the original machine is reproduced. It may be impossible to follow precisely the Langley lines in all respects. In any event, of course, the test will not be precisely as under the conditions of October, 1903, for the machine will be operated by an aviator of experience, with all the skill that over ten years of aviation development has produced.

Ohio.

A Columbus letter in yesterday's Star told of a working arrangement in Ohio between the democrats and the bull mooseers. Gov. Cox wants a second term, and sees that his hope lies in the bull moose organization. If that can be kept in fighting trim he can be governor again. Hence he is coddling it in every way possible, remembering it liberally in the way of pl.

Well, that is politics of the old-fashioned variety. You help me, I help you. The ally is worthy of his hire. And what, in effect, are the bull mooseers but the allies of the democrats? They helped put Gov. Cox in office, and naturally he expects them to help keep him there.

Still, it is stated, there is a steady drift back to the old party. Many men who became bull mooseers in 1912 are bull mooseers no longer. They "took it out of their system," and were satisfied. He left the state, and is no longer a direct challenge in the political world. And so the way has been cleared for a revival of Buckeye republicanism, which may result in the return of Mr. Burton to the Senate and a material increase in Ohio's republican representation in the House.

There has been talk of Gov. Harmon for the Senate. This now is discarded. The former governor, it is stated, has no further political aspirations.

What may be his opinion of the administration's trust program? As Attorney General in the second Cleveland cabinet he had something, though not much, to do with the Sherman law. He succeeded Mr. Olney when, though an eminent New England lawyer, had made no progress with it. Since Gov. Harmon's day in the Department of Justice progress has been made with the law, and Mr. Wickham did so much with it he left it as a very live legacy to the Wilson administration. Ohio, for long years, was a republican stronghold. Occasionally a democrat slipped into the governor's chair, and now and then one reached the Senate. But in presidential campaigns, the republicans plumped in overwhelming numbers for their party, and helped it to success. Is it possible for them to resume business at the old stand? They have been in a sad, sad mess these past few years, and good management will be necessary to rescue them from their plight and march them along together again.

Cincinnati architects are at work on plans for utilizing more space in an apartment dwelling. The Cincinnati tenant may yet have to be measured for an apartment the same as for a suit of clothes.

None of the exploring parties that talk of setting out for the north pole has had offers from Cook and Peary to serve as guides.

If all the ex-convicts in South Carolina were put in that state, it would build up quite a formidable organization.

It will be a great disappointment if as a cure radium proves no more reliable than tartaric cream.

Tammany, by seldom assuming superior standards, has managed to escape a great deal of criticism.

Early Adjournment, and After.

June 1 is four months away. Can Congress clear the time in that time? Will the republicans help? Unless there is operation between the two parties the thing cannot be done.

As The Star stated the other day, the republicans may be guided in their course by the developments of the season. If the democrats hold together, and no sorrow appear that the President cannot lead, there would be nothing for the republicans in a long session. They would waste time if they succeeded in forcing one.

On the other hand, if divisions arise in the ranks of the majority over either foreign or domestic issues, and particularly if those divisions should run on lines of White House and anti-White House, the republicans may hold the doors and protect the prerogative. Their opportunity will be in the belief that the House they are so few in numbers and so helpless under the rules they can do nothing. But in the Senate, where they are more numerous and where the minority has rights, the majority is bound to respect much may be done.

While an early campaign is desirable, and the approaching campaign is certain to be spirited, we are likely to witness one differing somewhat from previous campaigns. Deeds are going to count for more this year than words. The most persuasive things with the voters will be the new laws enacted, and not the trumpetings of spellbinders. If the new laws are making good, and promising better, praise of them by democrats will be superfluous, and denunciation by republicans and bull mooseers ineffective. But if they are failing, praise of them by democrats will be ineffective and denunciation by republicans and bull mooseers superfluous.

Take the tariff law. Democratic spellbinders in the campaign of 1912 promised not only tariff reduction, but that the reduction would lower the high cost of living. There were no reservations on that point. The protective tariff was

accused of the expensive dinner table, and revision of the Payne law was to set that right.

Many votes were won on that presentation of the tariff question. The market basket argument goes home to folks. As is said on the curbstone, it touches them where they live.

But, so far, the Underwood law has not reduced the cost of living. Some articles of daily consumption have gone up—higher now than ever before. Suppose this state of things continues, and the country is still feeling the pinch next fall. How welcome and influential then will be the stumpers who two years ago prophesied so eloquently and confidently about tariff revision?

The country cannot fail to be interested in the proceedings of a Congress which is ambitious to avoid being famous for the amount of unfinished business it can accumulate.

There is an growing inclination to believe that big business can be regulated by big statesmanship without danger of being harassed by small politics.

Huerta continues to hope that some distant nation without troubles of its own will come along and take an interesting situation of his hands.

Some of the remarks of the home-keeping progressives sound like telepathic communications from South America.

The tragedy of the aeroplane began with Mr. Langley, if the theory that he died of a broken heart is to be accepted.

SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

"Reasonable" Defined.

"What do you understand by the word 'reasonable'?"

"Reasonable," replied Mr. Dustin Stav, "is an adjective that may be applied to any theory or request that I may have to present."

"There's one New Year resolution I haven't broken, anyhow."

"What is that?"

"I made a solemn vow that I would never again keep a diary."

Sad But True.

The way of statesmanship is hard. The man who bravely quotes True patriot thought is often barred.

While "Con Talk" lands the votes:

The Uncertain Throng.

"Popularity is very fickle," exclaimed the offhand orator.

"What's the trouble?"

"Every time I get a crowd interested in my remarks an automobile tire blows out and the audience rushes off to see what the matter is."

Pride.

"You and this man were fighting in the street?"

"Well, judge, I'll plead guilty. But I hate to see that fellow get a reputation as a fighter on the bluff he was putting up."

Not the Same.

"It's a very curious winter," said the man who likes to tell

With feeling of the way things used to be.

"When yonder on the river—I remember it, full well—

The skaters used to speed with careless glide;

Perhaps you'll find it difficult to credit I may say.

But January in the years gone by

A quantity of real snow would place upon display:

"Twas cold, but very pleasing to the eye.

"We used to hear the sleighbells sounding far into the night;

We saw the frost upon the window pane;

We watched the youngsters on his sled, in swift intrepid flight

And sang a jolly wintertime refrain.

These modern innovations prove a puzzle more or less.

The numerous improvements that we see

Have even reached the climate and compel us to confess

That a winter isn't what it used to be!"

A Capital of Mercy.

From the New York Mail.

Plans have been approved at Washington for the new \$700,000 building of the American Red Cross, and are long that building, in a classic design, harmonizing with the neighborhood, will take its place next to the Corcoran Art Gallery, among the monumental structures which stand between the White House and Washington Monument and the Potomac river.

Private munificence has joined with governmental foresight in establishing that part of Washington with superb buildings. The Corcoran gallery, the Continental building, the Pan-American headquarters, the Red Cross temple among the new Lincoln memorial will, with other structures yet to come, convert the old Potomac flats, where in summer the humid heat still seethes and surges, into an impressive concourse of balconies.

Private munificence has a larger hand in the erection of this Red Cross building than public generosity. The cost of \$700,000, which makes it possible, \$400,000 was contributed by individuals and \$300,000 was appropriated by Congress. What is this Red Cross building? It is the capital, so to speak, of the merciful nation not only toward the sick and wounded in war, but toward the victims of all manner of public calamities.

The Once Despised Now Exalted.

From the Minneapolis Tribune.

When the bankers of the country generally were fretting and fuming and borrowing trouble over the new currency bill, and some of them were rushing about making indiscreet and intemperate speeches, in which they alleged that the administration was desirous of destroying the national bank, and predicted sky-blue rain as a result of the bill, the Bellman lifted his voice in protest against violent accusations of the kind.

He expressed the belief that if the bankers and the government would co-operate in the proper spirit the nation would secure what it has long needed, an adequate and proper currency and banking measure. Only a few weeks have elapsed since the bill became a law, and it is already accepted as being, so near as is humanly possible, sound legislation. It has not caused even a ripple of disturbance in financial waters, and the bankers are practically unanimous in the belief that it will prove entirely successful. Every considerable city in the country is striving for the distinction of being given one of the federal reserve banks.

No Increase in Wickedness.

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

Secretary Daniels wishes it to be distinctly understood that the reason he has asked for more chaplains in the navy is not because the navy is wicked under a democratic than under a republican administration.

Doing It Himself.

From the Chicago News.

President Wilson seems determined to leave the progressive party with nothing much to do.

The New Express Rates

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The following table is illustrative of some of the differences between the new and old rates

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	New Rates	Old Rates	New Rates
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New Orleans	.38	.75	.57
New York	.25	.40	.30
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Dallas	.44	.75	.68
Denver	.46	.80	.72

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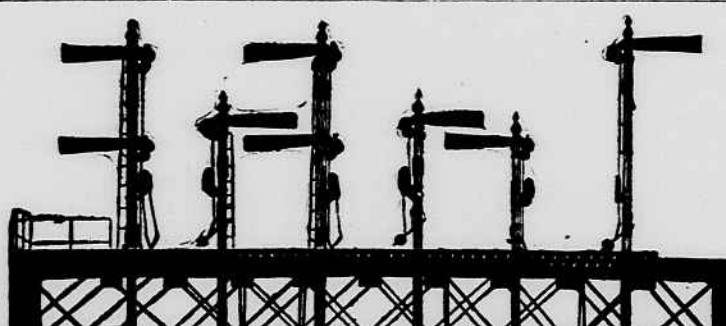
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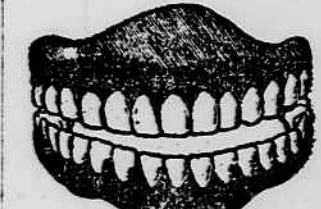
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Notice to Income Tax Payers

Personal income tax returns by citizens of the District of Columbia must be filed by March 1, 1914, with J. B. Hanna, collector of internal revenue, at Baltimore, Md.

To save the inconvenience of sending to that city for a copy of Treasury form No. 1040, required to be used for personal returns, we have had prepared in accordance with the U. S. Treasury regulations, blanks for the above return, which may be had upon application.

Persons compelled by law to file a personal return are cordially invited to call at our office and procure a copy.